

EN

E-003488/2025

Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(22.10.2025)

Since the beginning of 2025, trade relations with the United States (US) have been volatile.

The Commission's priority has been to restore stability and predictability and to open the door to strategic collaboration with the US. On 27 July 2025, the Commission President and US President reached a political agreement on tariffs and trade. This deal delivers confidence and predictability for European firms, and avoids the alternative of a harmful further tariff escalation. The ensuing Joint Statement¹ establishes the key parameters of the EU-US trade and investment relationship moving forward.

As regards the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), the EU committed in the Joint Statement to work to provide additional flexibilities in its implementation for all companies, especially for small and medium-sized companies. This is already part of the Commission's simplification agenda to streamline and improve EU legislation.

Urgent action is needed to fight climate change, which remains the Commission's priority. All countries must step up efforts, internationally and domestically to implement commitments. This is why the EU is implementing cost-efficient policies such as carbon pricing, reducing greenhouse gas emissions while allowing the economy to grow. Measures under the European Green Deal, including CBAM, were developed through transparency, stakeholder dialogue and discussions with partner countries while complying with the EU's international commitments. CBAM is designed to ensure that EU industries' decarbonisation efforts are not undermined by carbon leakage and is essential to reach the EU's climate targets.

¹ https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/news/joint-statement-united-states-european-union-framework-agreement-reciprocal-fair-and-balanced-trade-2025-08-21_en.